

IN THE CLAIMS:

In line 1, delete "Patent Claims" and insert:

C L A I M S

Please amend claims 1-21 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Automatic stripping pliers ~~(100,~~
~~100')~~, in particular for flat cables, comprising, in
combination of at least:

- a knife unit ~~(40), consisting of~~ having at least one knife
holder ~~(41)~~ and a knife carriage ~~(45)~~ articulated on said
knife holder;

- a clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~ with at least one clamping
jaw ~~(31)~~ located at its front end;

- a base housing ~~(20)~~ with

* one upper clamping arm ~~(25, 25')~~, in which the knife unit
~~(40)~~ is guided in a movable fashion,

* at least one clamping jaw ~~(21)~~,

* ~~one articulated~~ a clamping arm bearing ~~(23, 23')~~ on which the clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~ is articulated;

- a handle lever unit ~~(60)~~, which is articulated at an articulated handle lever bearing ~~(61)~~ with the base housing ~~(20)~~; and

- an elbow lever unit ~~(70)~~ consisting of a first and a second elbow lever arm ~~(72, 75)~~ that are articulated relative to one another via an elbow lever center axis ~~(73)~~, whereby

* the first elbow lever arm ~~(72)~~ is guided with the first elbow lever end axis ~~(71)~~ in a guide link ~~(32)~~ of the clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~,

* the second elbow lever ~~(75)~~ is articulated at the knife unit ~~(40)~~

and

* the elbow lever center axis ~~(73)~~ is guided in the handle lever unit (60).

2. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the knife unit ~~(40)~~ is supported in a movable fashion in the clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~.

3. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the base housing ~~(20)~~ exhibits a hand grip section ~~(24)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in ~~one of the claims 1 to 3~~, ~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the handle lever unit ~~(60)~~ exhibits at least one elbow lever axis guide groove ~~(66)~~, a spring element bearing ~~(63)~~ and a stop bolt ~~(62)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in claim 4, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising a stop element ~~(50)~~, which can be moved with the first elbow lever end axis ~~(71)~~ in relation to the clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~ and ~~that is to be resting~~ rests on the stop bolt ~~(62)~~ with the stop surface ~~(52)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in claim 4 ~~or 5~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the

first elbow lever arm (72) with the first elbow lever end axis (71) is supported in a movable fashion in the elbow lever axis guide groove (34) of the clamping arm unit (30, 30').

7. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers (100, 100') as set forth in ~~one of the claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the elbow lever center axis (73) is guided in the elbow lever axis guide groove (66) of the handle lever unit (60).

8. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers (100, 100') as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one of the knife holder (41) ~~and/or~~ and the knife carriage (45) exhibits a U-shaped cross-section at least in the area of the articulated axis (44) and whereby a cable feed-through channel is created between the knife carriage (45) and the knife holder (41).

9. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers (100, 100') as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the elbow lever center axis (73) is

supported in the elbow lever axis guide groove {66} in a rollable fashion via an elbow lever guide roll {74}.

10. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100, 100'} as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim, wherein the guide edge of the elbow lever axis guide groove {66} is thickened through a guide strip {65}.

11. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100, 100'} as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the knife carriage {45} exhibits an elbow lever axis guide groove {47} across a portion of its length, which is at least partially covered by the elbow lever axis guide groove {34} of the clamping arm unit {30, 30'}.

12. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100, 100'} as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the clamping arm unit {30, 30'} exhibits at its lower side a guide link {32} on which the knife unit {40} is guided via a knife unit guide roll {49}.

13. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100, 100'} as set forth in claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide link {32} exhibits at least one locking notch {33}.

14. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in claim 12 ~~or 13, characterized in that~~ wherein the knife unit guide roll ~~(49)~~ is supported at the spring receiving joint ~~(48)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the second elbow lever end axis ~~(76)~~ is located in the articulated axis ~~(44)~~ of the knife unit ~~(40)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the knife carriage ~~(45) and/or~~ and the knife holder ~~(41) is~~ are provided with replaceable knife elements ~~(43, 46)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the upper clamping arm ~~(25) and/or~~ and the clamping arm unit ~~(30, 30')~~ is are provided with replaceable clamping jaws ~~(21, 31)~~.

18. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers ~~(100, 100')~~ as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~

claim 1, wherein a knife blade {92} is located at the handle lever unit {60}, with said knife blade moving with a pivoting movement of the handle lever unit {60} against a fixed knife element {91} in the base housing {20}.

19. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100'} as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the upper clamping arm {25'} exhibits a pressure point element {26'} that is guided in a pressure point element guide groove {27'} and that is located opposite the upper end of the knife unit {40}.

20. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100'} as set forth in ~~one of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the articulated clamping arm bearing {23'} is formed by an axis that is connected with the base housing {20'} and that rests against a damping element {35'} located in the clamping arm unit {30'}.

21. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers {100'} as set forth in claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the damping element {35'} is located underneath the axis in an elongated hole {36'} in the clamping arm unit {30'}.